

**To:** Purchia, Liz[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov]; Davis, Tim[Davis.Tim@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Harrison, Melissa[Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov]; Morin, Jeff[Morin.Jeff@epa.gov]; Hart, Daniel[Hart.Daniel@epa.gov]  
**From:** Gray, David  
**Sent:** Sun 8/16/2015 12:04:35 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Exactly what language I replaced on exactly which page--URGENT quick check needed

Good

**From:** Purchia, Liz  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 15, 2015 6:02 PM  
**To:** Davis, Tim  
**Cc:** Harrison, Melissa; Morin, Jeff; Hart, Daniel; Gray, David  
**Subject:** Re: Exactly what language I replaced on exactly which page--URGENT quick check needed

Adding David so he can take a quick look

Liz Purchia

U.S. EPA

202-564-6691

202-841-2230

On Aug 15, 2015, at 8:01 PM, Davis, Tim <[Davis.Tim@epa.gov](mailto:Davis.Tim@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Melissa and Liz!

SO sorry again about my email not working last night! No WONDER it was so quiet! I didn't notice the problem until after 1AM! The same thing apparently happened to Paula Smith!

Anyway, what I REALLY NEED are **specific Web addresses** so that I'm 100% certain that I'm

updating the \*\*correct\*\* page; these updates can be VERY confusing because a “press release,” an “update,” and a “data” page are VERY similar pages—far too similar, but we’ll deal with that later.

So, I want to make 100% sure that I’m doing the right thing. Please correct anything below on which I’m mistaken, and I’ll fix it in a New York nanosecond!! ☺

On THIS page:

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine/epa-statement-sediment-data-collected-animas-river-bakers-bridge-north-durango>

What is NOW says is

Farmington, New Mexico - August 14, 2015: Today, EPA has released additional water quality data from Aug. 7 to Aug. 10, 2015 for the Animas and San Juan Rivers from the Northern Border of New Mexico to Navajo Nation. Based upon the surface water sample results in New Mexico surface water concentrations are trending toward pre-event conditions.

To assess the impacts of the release at the Gold King Mine, water quality samples were collected from the Northern Border of New Mexico to Navajo Nation at numerous intervals beginning on Aug. 7, 2015. Samples were taken prior to the plume’s arrival to establish a baseline for water quality comparisons. Each surface water sample was analyzed for 24 metals, including arsenic, cadmium, lead and mercury.

Surface water samples were collected on Friday, August 7, 2015, at four (4) locations prior to arrival of the plume along the Animas and San Juan Rivers in New Mexico. On Saturday, August 8, 2015, nine (9) locations were sampled after arrival of the plume.

EPA has continued to take additional samples to document the change in the concentration of metals in the river. EPA has shared this data with state, local and tribal officials in New Mexico to assist them in their decisions regarding the on-going use of water resources. These results are based on validated sampling data collected from

Aug. 7 to Aug. 10, 2015.

What is USED to say is:

August 14, 2015: The EPA sediment samples collected in the Animas River from Bakers Bridge to north of Durango have been validated. EPA has done a review of the data which included a comparison to background to determine if the metal concentrations are consistent with pre-incident levels.

Metal results that exceeded pre-incident levels were subsequently compared to risk-based screening levels. No results exceeded recreational screening levels.

However, comparison to risk-based screening values found these exceedances to below risk screening levels. The review and interpretation of these data was a collaborative effort that included state and local members of the unified command.

Sample date Aug. 11, 2015.